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lower tracts. The Banihar canal was thrown open in the Jammu Province but its effect on population were naturally more discernible in the subsequent decades. Percentage increases of 9.3 and 11.3 for Jammu and Kashmir Provinces and 9.6 for the entire State for the decade is quite reasonable and reliable.

1911-1921.—The normal rainfall was generally better than in the previous decade. The condition of crops in the State during the decade was about the average on the whole with the exception of the extraordinarily dry year 1920 which caused serious distress in some tehsils of the Jammu Province. "The greatest suffering was occasioned in the tehsils of Kotli, Mirpur, Samba and Poonch Jagirs and to a slightly lesser degree in the tehsils of Kishtwar, Ramnagar, Bhadrawa of the Udhampur district. Liberal Taccavi advances were made through the Co-operative Department in the district of Mirpur for purchase of grain and cattle, among whom the mortality was very heavy, owing to dearth of fodder and desertion of the population to neighbouring districts in search of livelihood. Since, efforts supplemented by private charity succeeded in partially easing the situation, but the adverse effects of this long drawn suffering had an important bearing on the movement of population in the affected tracts. The total amount of Revenue suspended during the decade was Rs. 190,587 of which Rs. 130,780 was suspended in the Jammu Province".

The suspensions in the Frontier Districts and Kashmir Province amounted to Rs. 5,621 and Rs. 70,804 respectively while remissions throughout the State aggregated to Rs. 21,000.

Irrigational Extensions.—The decade witnessed an increase in the number of canals by 2, in total mileage by 60 and in irrigated area by 15,652 acres which is a fairly satisfactory record of decennial improvement, greater share of improvement falling to the lot of Jammu Province as in Kashmir the natural water courses fed by snows require little further help by artificial system. In Jammu the Banihar canal with 6 distributories was completed in 1912; the Ramnagar canal in Kathua district was completed in 1917 and Ujh canal was started in 1919, while 8 distributories from Upper Jhelum canal were laid out in Mirpur in 1916.

Public Health.—Out of the total 88,294 deaths during the decade Influenza buried the heaviest toll (44,514 deaths) by opening 50 per cent. of the total mortality in 1918 and the disease held sway over both the provinces. Kashmir was free from Plague while Jammu had 9 visitations of this epidemic resulting in the total mortality of 5,134 persons in the decade. Cholera did its usual havoc in Kashmir and took away 18,504 lives—the 1919 attack being the most virulent. Small-Pox inflicted considerable mortality both in Jammu and Kashmir Provinces, the total number of deaths being 16,405. It is regretted that the absence of reliable vital statistics renders comparisons with the past Census difficult.

Prices and Wages.—The exceptional feature of the decade was the abnormal rise in prices and wages during the War and the Post-War years as against the easy prices and steady conditions prevailing prior to 1914. The prices of food stuffs increased by 150 to 300 per cent. on account of the War and the wages of artisans and labourers were universally more than doubled. A woman who received a daily wage of -/6/- could not be had for less than Re. 1 or even Re. 1/4/-.

Apprehending that the export of large quantities of food grains from the State to outside places where higher prices were obtainable will lead to considerable famine conditions the State had to place an embargo on the export of wheat, maize and rice. It is, however, unfortunate that the number of deaths in the War is not given in the Report as the absence of the able bodied population from their homes for a period of five years and the deaths of

[Errata: add "to" before "show", at errata sheet, p. 329, category 116 -- Analyst]